

**First Stereotype.**  
The first man to stereotype a newspaper was Charles Craske, formerly of St. Marks avenue who died the other day in Woodbridge, N. J., at the age of 63. He did this great thing in 1852, at the suggestion of Horace Greeley, and the result, of course, was a great though gradual change in newspaper printing, for it was years before it was the general practice. Mr. Craske had carried on the craft of stereotyping and electrotyping in New York for more than 50 years, his company being in Pearl street.

**History of Coal.**  
The history of coal is comparatively modern. It seems to have been used first in England in the ninth century. London has no record of it until the thirteenth century and that is in the form of opposition. Parliament in 1318 petitioned the king, the second of the Edwards, to prohibit the burning of an article claimed to be injurious to health and a royal proclamation was issued forbidding it. But the high price of wood compelled the Londoners to resort to it again.

**Channel Tunnel Scheme.**  
According to the London Graphic, the present year will witness a revival, on the part of French engineers and commercial men, of the channel tunnel scheme. The engineers and their scientific friends in the Institute of France have just given the first symptom of it, in celebrating the memory of M. Potier, the engineer who initiated the project, now more than 30 years ago.

**Rightful King of Poland.**  
Though an American citizen now, Col. John Sobieski, once Prohibition candidate for governor of Missouri, indisputably is rightful king of Poland. He lives at present in California. He was born in Poland in 1842 and he and his daughter are the only known direct descendants of the warrior king of Poland, John Sobieski.

**Thickness of Human Skin.**  
The skin of the men and women of some nations is much thicker than that of others, particularly in hot countries. The Central African negro has a skin about half as thick again as that of a European. That of a negro is thickest over the head and back—evidently to form a protection against the sun.

**Football Did It.**  
A young man of Gloucester, England, received such a shock on hearing of his father's death that he lost the power of speech. Recently he went to a football game. In his excitement he tried to cheer and succeeded in doing so. He can speak as fluently as ever now.

**Contact.**  
"As a poet and literary man," said the grasping publisher with enthusiasm, "I'll put you against the world."  
"That isn't necessary," muttered the struggling author. "I'm up against it already, good and hard."—Chicago Tribune.

**Absent-Minded.**  
"How's the market to-day?" inquired the senior partner, who hadn't been down town.  
"Bullish on violets," answered the junior partner, who was in love. "On theater tickets and candies, normal."

**Conscientious Answer.**  
"Does de white folks dat lib in yoush neighborhood keep any chickens, Brother Rastus?"  
"Well, Brother Johnsing," after considerable deliberation, "dey does keep a few."

**Exclusive.**  
Oordella—How is it that Mrs. Crush always has so many people at her functions?  
Amelia—Because her functions are so exclusive.—N. Y. World.

**Famine in Japan.**  
A grievous famine is reported in Japan, in three of the northern provinces. A population of nearly 3,000,000 has been reduced to the necessity of living on shrubs, roots and bark.

**Playing a Return.**  
"What! Drunk again? I thought on New Year's day you said farewell to the flowing bowl."  
"I did, but it was a Patti farewell."

**Great Apple Country.**  
British Columbia promises to become a dangerous rival of Oregon as an apple-growing region. During last season 600,000 trees were planted.

**Tuberculosis Congress.**  
Dr. Laurence I. Flick, an expert on tuberculosis, is planning an international convention, to be held in Washington, in 1908.

**Somewhat Swift.**  
A ray of light, it is said, could move eight times around the globe between the ticks of a watch.

**Popularity of Diaz.**  
Out of 1,548,654 votes polled in the recent election in Mexico only 33,172 were against Diaz.

**Theories Don't Count.**  
The woman that raises children to respect her does it without any theories.—N. Y. Press.

**Coal for Coke.**  
Coke calls for 40,000,000 tons of coal this year.

**Trouble Coming.**  
"May I ask what you call these?" asked the British visitor, turning to the man sitting next to him at the hotel table.  
"The cook, I believe," answered the other, "calls them buckwheat cakes."  
The visitor tasted them and took out his notebook.  
He had found material for a whole chapter in his forthcoming work on America.—Chicago Tribune.

**Necessary Preparation.**  
"Laura," said Mr. Ferguson, "what kind of a looking girl is this Miss Wilmerson who is coming to visit you next week?"  
"She's the handsomest girl of my acquaintance," answered Mrs. Ferguson.  
"Well that means that I've got to take that cracked mirror off the bureau and put a new one in its place."—Chicago Tribune.

**The Coming Aristocracy.**  
Visitor (in penitentiary)—Who is that distinguished looking convict?  
Warden—He is known here as No. 1,147.  
"He seems to hold himself aloof from his fellows."  
"Yes; you can hardly expect him to associate with the common herd. His trial cost the state \$200,000."—Chicago Tribune.

**Establishing a Basis.**  
Tufford Knutt (at the kitchen door)—Hew ye got a pipe organ that needs tunin', ma'am?  
Woman of the House—Pipe organ? Of course not!  
"Well, ma'am, seein' I hain't got no chanst to earn a meal, would ye mind jest givin' me a bite of somethin' to eat?"—Chicago Tribune.

**Obituary Slander.**  
Wilhelm Schmied, of Unterhalb, Germany, who instructed a stonemason to inscribe on his wife's tombstone the words: "Here rests the body of Marie Schmied, who died, after much suffering, from the effects of unscrupulous treatment," has been sentenced to a month's imprisonment for slandering the doctor in the case.

**How a Woman Reasons.**  
A woman never loses interest in the man she might have married, says the Council Grove (Kan.) Guard. If he succeeds she prides herself on the fact that she could have had him. If he fails she is equally proud of the fact that she had foresight enough to turn him down.

**Returned to Punishment.**  
A man of Cardiff, Wales, was accused of stealing lead from a roof, and broke jail and fled. After he had traveled 26,000 miles he surrendered and was tried on the charge of theft and acquitted. But he was held for trial for escaping from prison.

**Oldest Woman Author.**  
Mrs. Francis Alexander, of Florence, Italy, is one of the oldest women, if not the oldest, writing to-day. Mrs. Alexander is in her ninety-third year, and has just translated from the Italian more than 120 miracle stories and sacred legends.

**Automobilitis.**  
At Geelong, New South Wales, a man has been committed to an insane asylum who thinks he is a runaway automobile. When he was arrested he was black and blue from colliding with trees, fences and walls.

**Not So Blind.**  
"Dis here Cupid chile may be blind," said Uncle Eben, "but it do seem to me dat he kin manage to spy out a heap o' beauty an' loveliness dat ain't visible to de disinterested bystander."—Washington Star.

**Died for Doll.**  
Marie Favre, five years old, dropped her doll into Lake Neufchatel, and at once plunged in to rescue it. The doll was clasped in her arms when her body was recovered.

**Unique Distinction.**  
The late Jacob Litt, who acquired a large fortune in a short time, had the unique distinction in the theatrical business of never having paid a royalty to an author.

**Russia in Asia.**  
Russian Asiatic possessions are three times the size of Great Britain's, but hold only 23,000,000 inhabitants, as compared with England's 297,000,000 subjects.

**Still in the Family.**  
Nurse—The baby has your hair, str. Scantlocks—Do you think so? Well, I'm glad some one in the family has it.—N. Y. Telegram.

**Soup in Sacks.**  
Frozen soup, in small leather sacks, is carried by travelers in eastern Siberia. Frozen milk is also carried in the same way.

**Antes in Africa.**  
"Steam ox" and "steam camel" are the names given to automobiles by the natives of German Southwest Africa.

**Our Coal Output.**  
The United States this year has mined more coal than was produced in the world in 1890.

**Heroism.**  
A hero is a man who has met the psychological moment and embraced it.

**An Amateur Juliet.**  
We thought that the citizens of Athens respected and desired freedom of the press. Apparently they do not, says the Athens (Kan.) Eagle. James B. Parker, whose wife is taking the part of Juliet in the charity series, objected to our calling her skinny, and waited for us at the theater last night. Fortunately we caught him one on the eye, which destroyed some of the effect his objection might otherwise have borne. J. Parker is a danger to the community. She is skinny, anyhow.

**"Animalness" of Doyle.**  
Here is a pen portrait of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle as drawn by a spectator at a recent London meeting, in which the author took a prominent part: The massive figure, the sun-scorched, crimson cheeks and the entire healthy animalness of the man were unavoidably conspicuous, giving the lie in stentorian tones to the oft-repeated fabrication that brains can only be cultivated at the expense of the body.

**Deadened Him.**  
To an official of the Sudan railway in Africa there came a telegram from an outlying station: "Stationmaster has died. Shall I bury him?" The reply was sent as follows: "Yes, bury stationmaster, but please make sure he is really dead before you do so." In due time back came the message: "Have buried stationmaster. Made sure he was dead by hitting him twice on the head with a fishplate."

**A Firm Stand.**  
"Young ladies," said the presidentess of Wassar college, severely, "it has come to my knowledge that upper classwomen have refused to give recipes for making fudge to lower classwomen. This must be stopped. Hazing will positively not be tolerated at this institution."—Chicago Sun.

**Murdered Missionaries.**  
It now appears that the recent murder of the five American missionaries at Lienchow, China, was due to the anti-American sentiment which exists strongly in southern China. Two of the missionaries, bride and groom, had been on the field only three days.

**Wolf in Town.**  
A girl aged five was seated on the doorstep of her mother's home at Victor, Col., the other day and was about to eat a piece of bread and butter, covered with sugar, when a large gray wolf dashed up, snatched the bread out of her hand and went off with it.

**Canada's Immigrants.**  
According to E. B. Osborne, who lectured recently at the Royal Colonial Institute, London, Canada's immigrants are best in the following order: Scotsmen, Americans, Englishmen, Scandinavians, Germans and Dutchborders.

**Missionary Honored.**  
A high honor has been paid by the British government in India to an American missionary, Rev. Dr. J. C. R. Ewing, of Lahore, in making him chairman of the relief work among the sufferers from the recent earthquakes.

**Long Time in Debt.**  
An English debtor has been allowed to pay off a debt of about \$80 at the rate of one penny a month. It will require 209 years to complete the payments. The sum was due a money lender, which explains the decision.

**Odd Coincidence.**  
Babies arrived last Good Friday in the homes of twin sisters, living within a block of each other on Colgan street, Louisville, Ky. There was but 56 minutes difference in the time of the births.

**Ban on Suicides.**  
In view of the frequency of suicide at Dover, England, the local clergy have agreed not to use the prayer book order of burial at the funerals of those who have taken their own lives.

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